

# Juvenile Court Improvement Program: 2011 Reassessment

Malheur County

# Purpose of the Reassessment

---

- Meet Court Improvement Grants requirement.
- Evaluate adherence of State court rules with national recommendations.
- Assess strengths and challenges of the dependency court.
- Develop recommendations for court improvement based on the findings of the reassessment.

# Objectives

---

- ① Methodology
- ① County Level Data
- ① Recommendations

# Methodology

---

- Juvenile Data Reports
- Court Observations
- Focus Groups
- Interviews
- Surveys
- File Reviews

# 2010 Juvenile Data Statistics

Event	Number Held	Average Length (Minutes)	NCJFCJ Resource Guidelines Recommendations
Petitions	24	NA	
Shelter Hearings	20	50	60
Pretrial Hearings	10	10	
Jurisdictional Hearings	35	18	30
Trials	4	600	
Dispositional Hearings	5	48	30
Permanency Hearings	58	30	60
Review Hearings	55	29	30

# 2010 Timeliness Data

Timelines	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Time to Jurisdiction (60 days)	93%	82%	85%	87%	92%	91%	94%	68%
Time to First Permanency (14 months)	61%	74%	72%	84%	93%	83%	100%	94%
Time to TPR (6 months)	18%	23%	70%	25%	NA	25%	33%	27%

# Methodology

---

- Juvenile Data Reports
- Court Observations
- Focus Groups
- Interviews
- Surveys
- File Reviews

# File Review

1997

---

- Cases closed in 1995 involving children under age 14.
- 7 cases in the sample.
- Attorneys and law students.

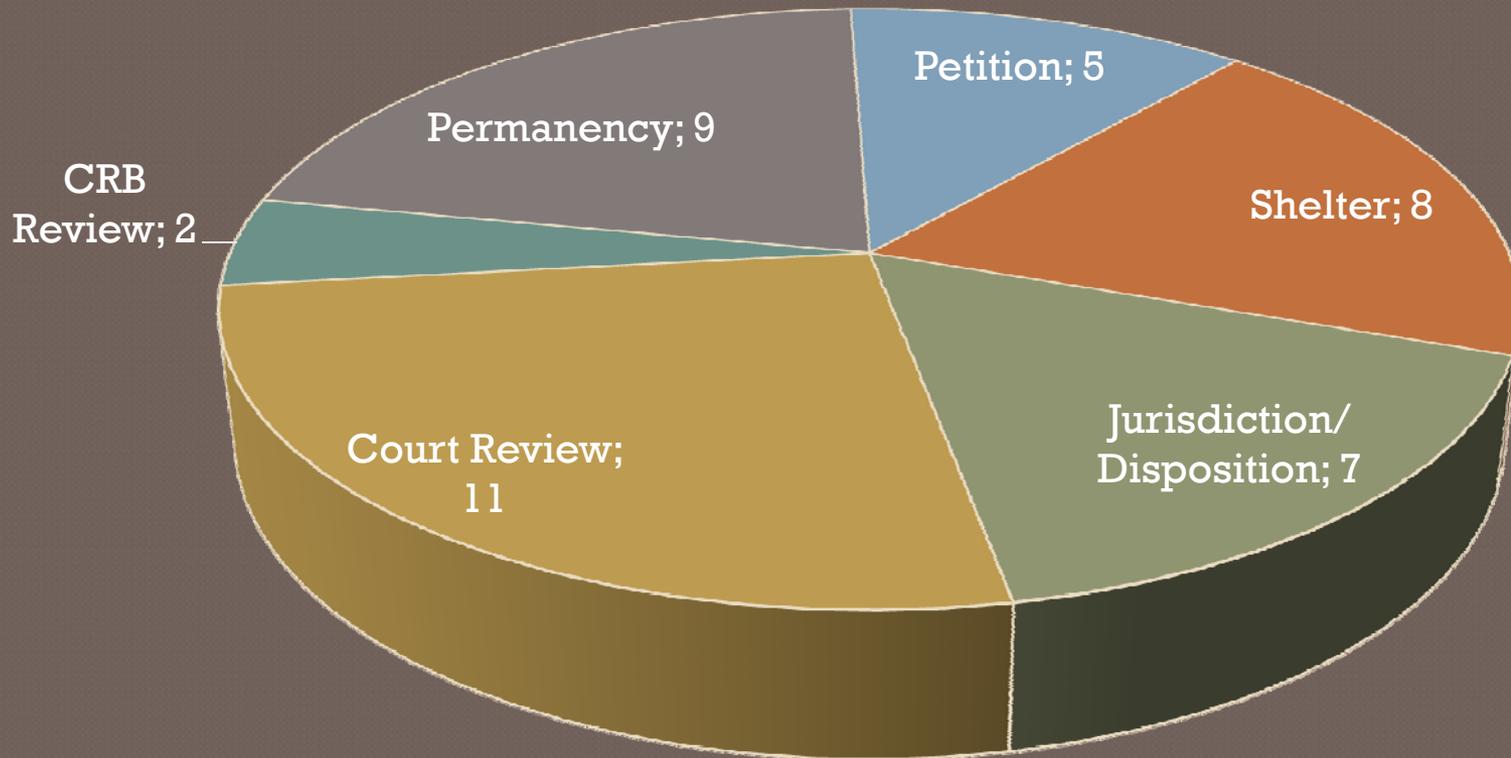
2011

---

- Children who left care between October 1, 2009 and March 31, 2010.
- 8 cases in the sample.
- CRB Volunteer Board Members = Reassessment Team
- Events occurring on or after July 1, 2008

# Documents Reviewed

---



# File Review

---

- Petition allegations
- Participant presence
- Placement with siblings or relatives
- Identification of, and progress towards, the permanent and concurrent plans
- Well-being findings

# Petition Allegations

---

- In 1997, only 43% of petitions in Malheur included allegations against a father.
- In 2011, 100% of petitions reviewed included allegations against both mother and father.

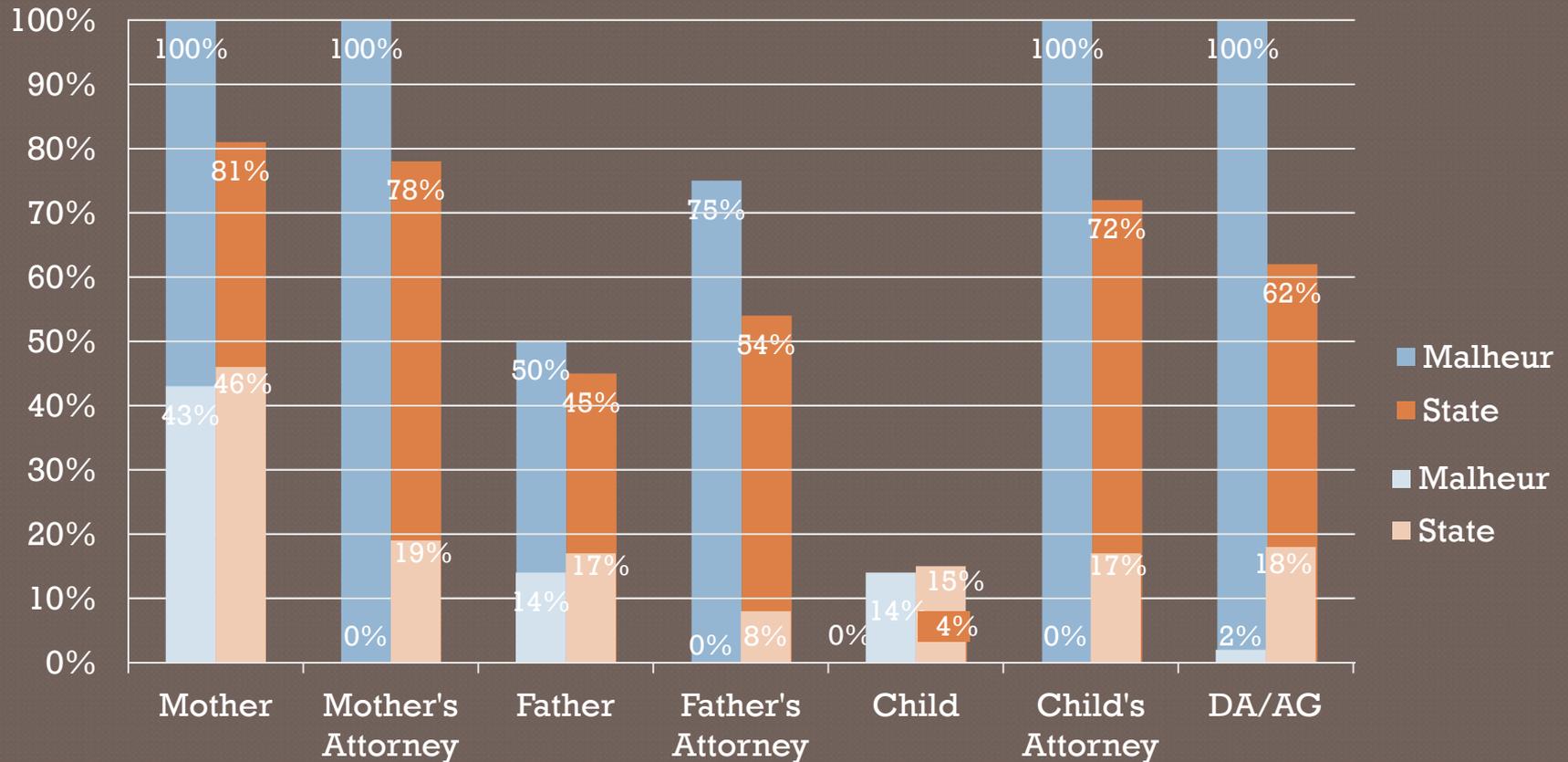
# File Review

---

- Petition allegations
- Participant presence
- Placement with siblings or relatives
- Identification of, and progress towards, the permanent and concurrent plans
- Well-being findings

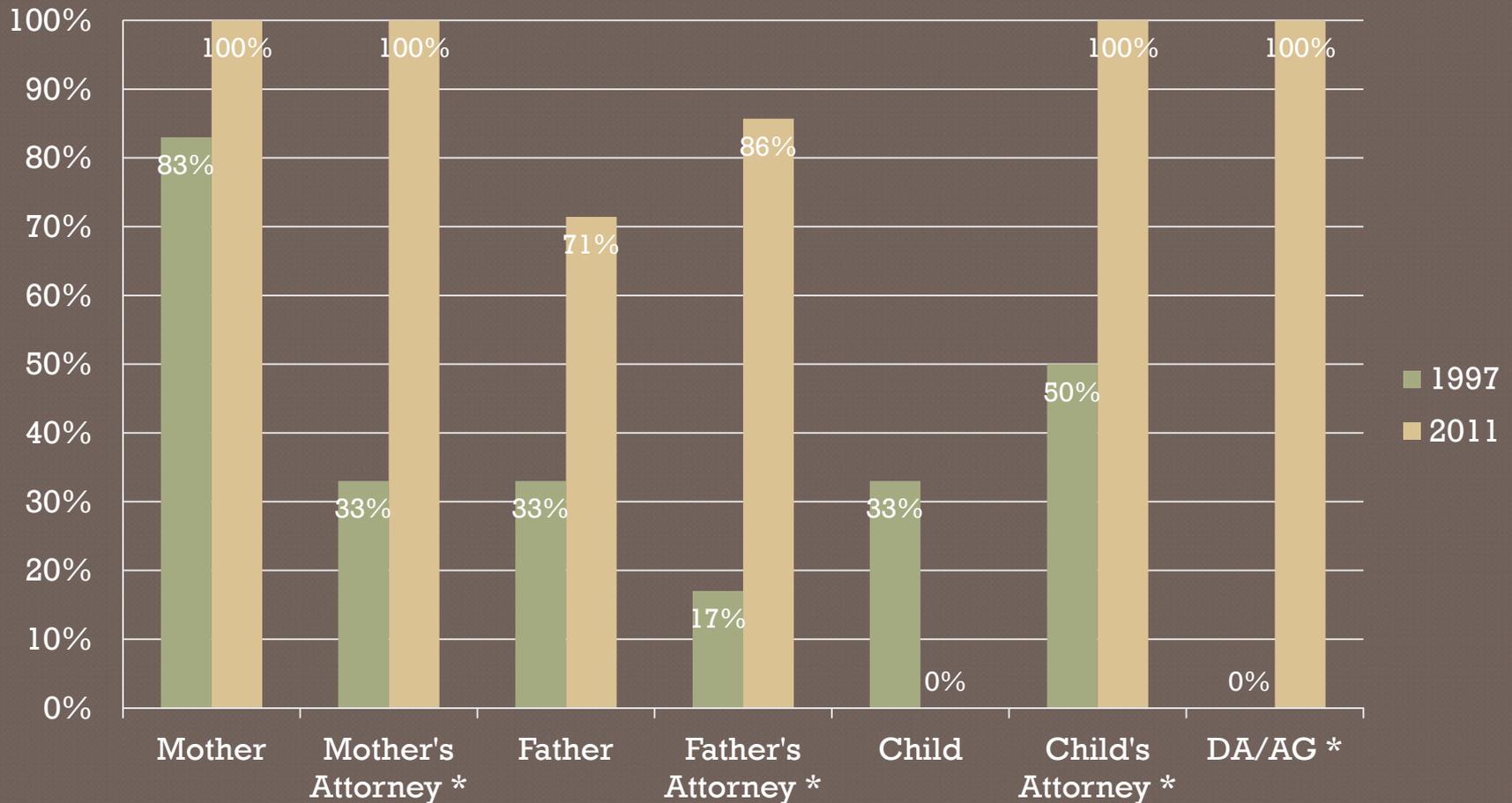
# Documented Presence at Shelter

1997 and 2011



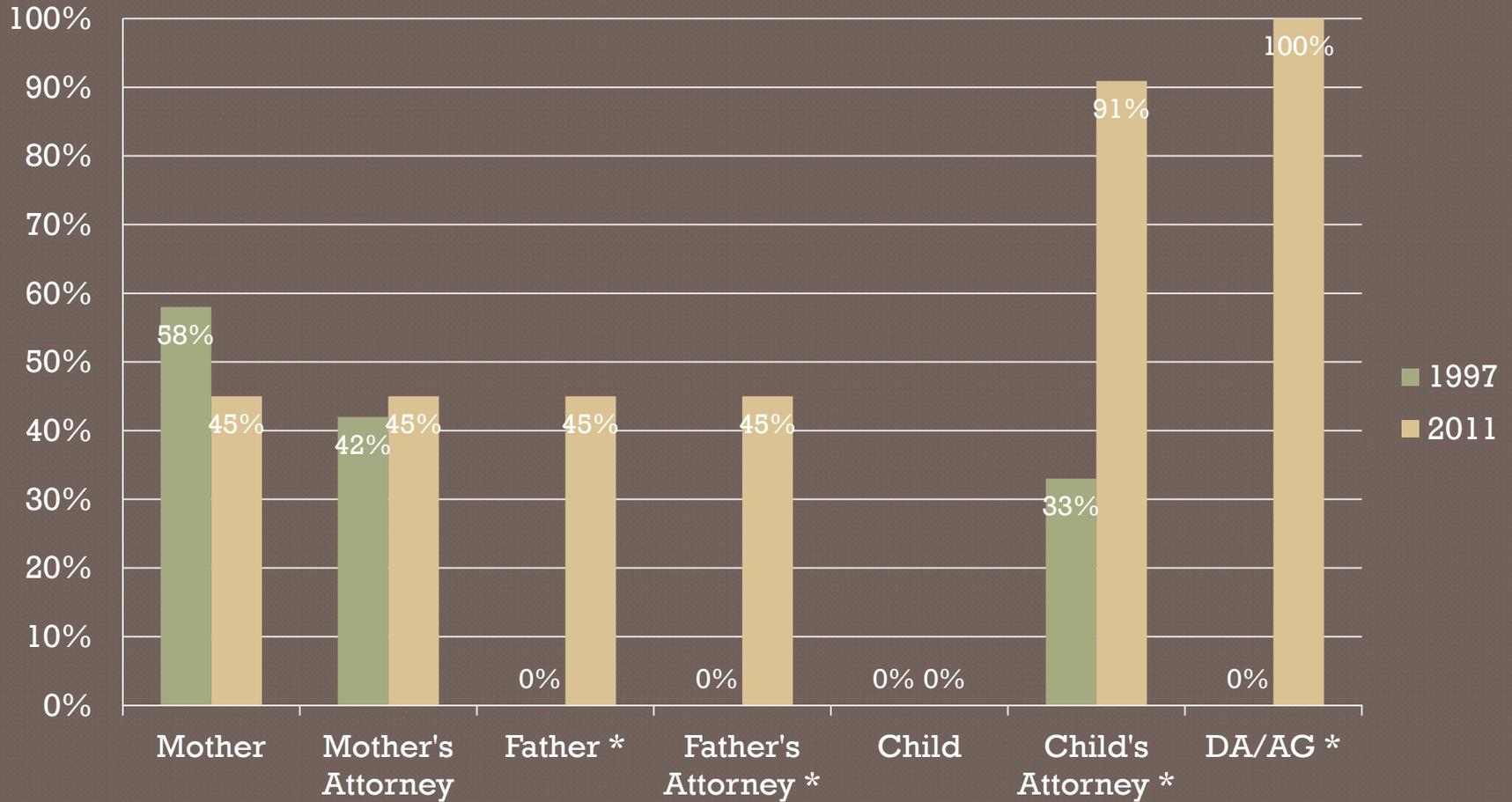
JCIP

# Documented Presence at Jurisdiction/Disposition



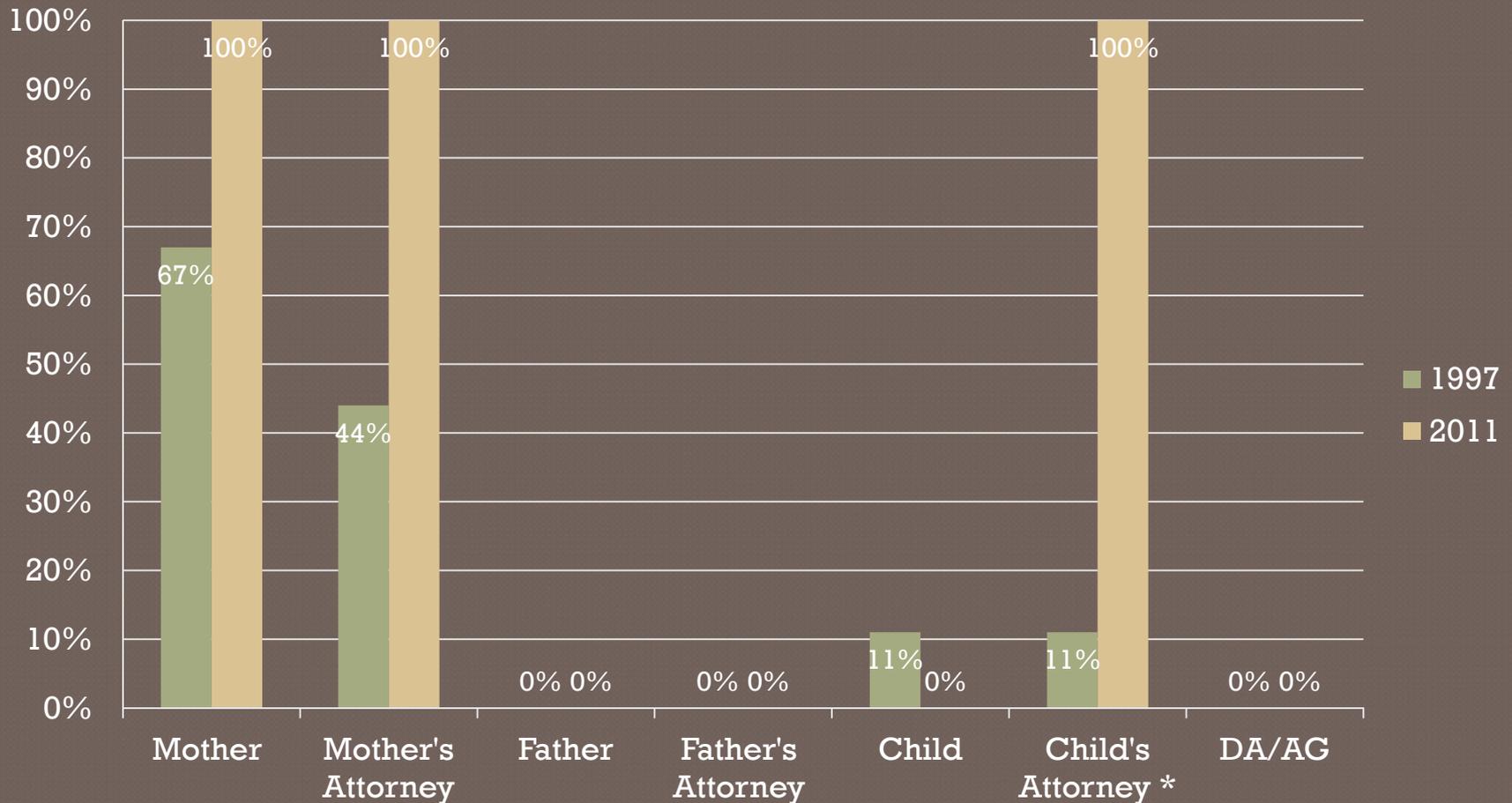
\* Statistically significant

# Documented Presence at Court Review



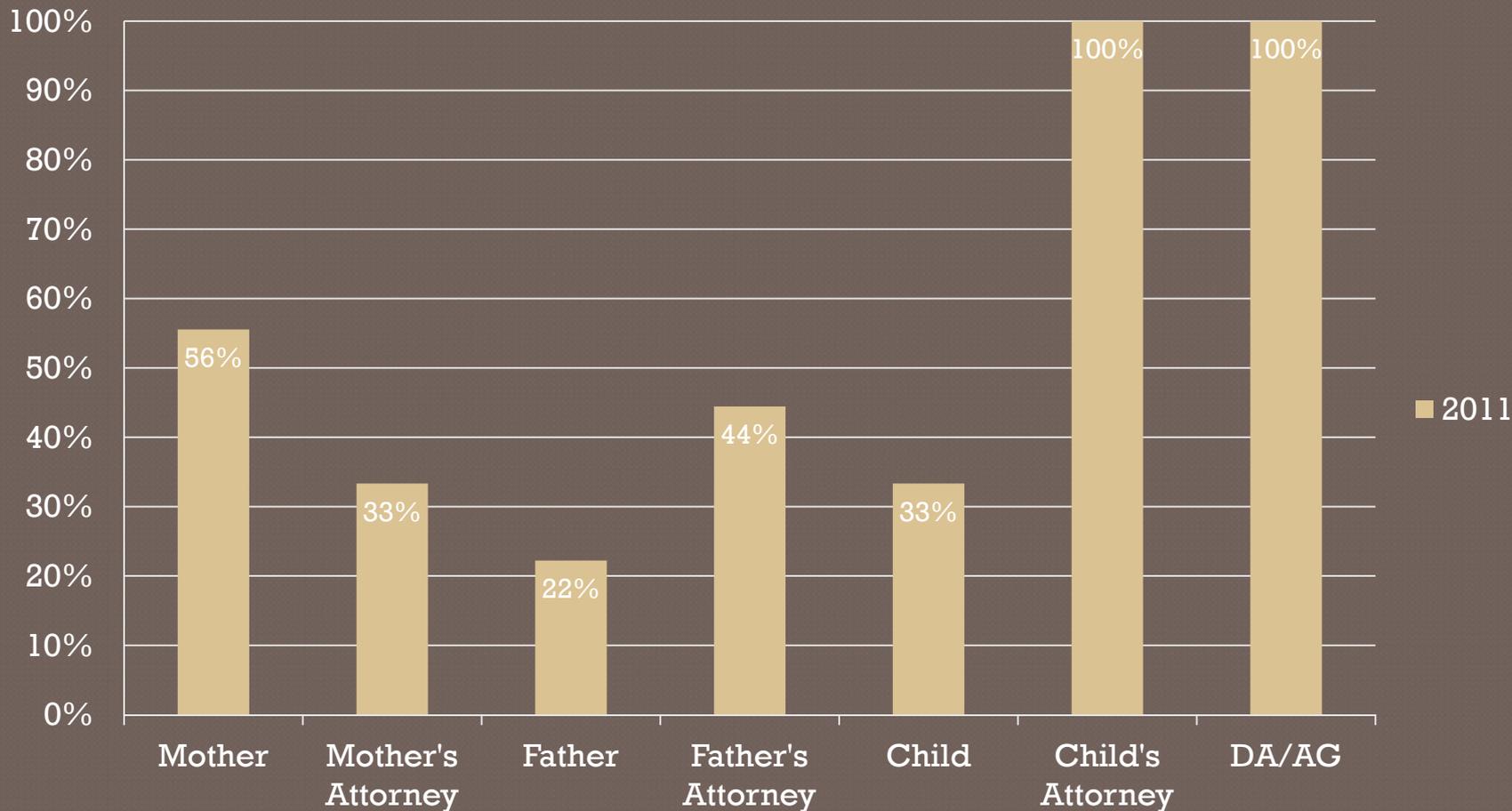
\* Statistically significant

# Documented Presence at CRB



\* Statistically significant

# Documented Presence at Permanency

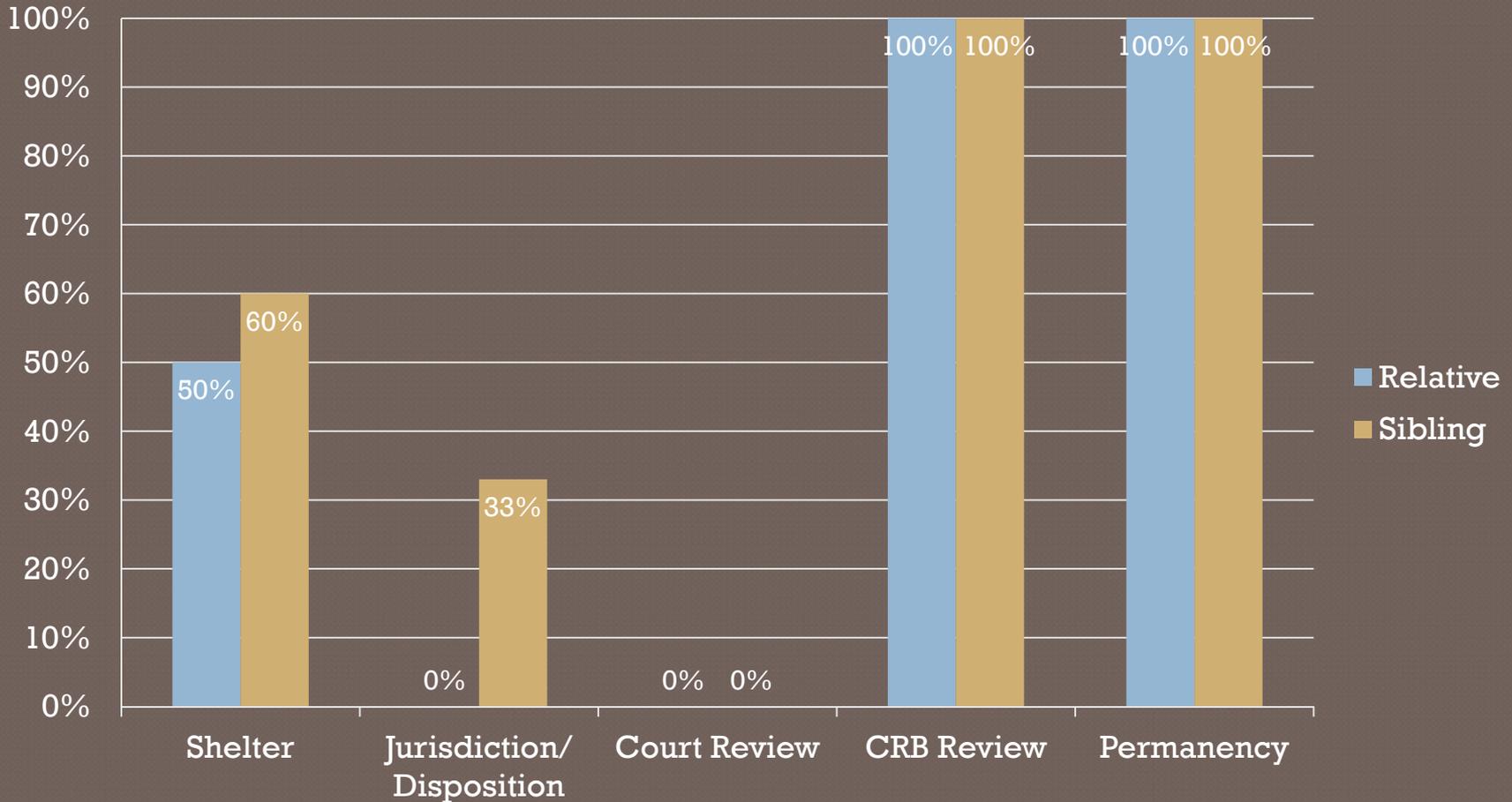


# File Review

---

- Petition allegations
- Participant presence
- Placement with siblings or relatives
- Identification of, and progress towards, the permanent and concurrent plans
- Well-being findings

# Efforts to Place Child with Family



File review. Relative: shelter n=6, jurisdiction/disposition n=4, court review n=7, CRB review n=2, permanency n=6; Sibling: shelter n=5, jurisdiction/disposition n=4, court review n=6, CRB review n=2, permanency n=6.

# Concurrent Plans

---

- 100% of dispositional judgments had a designated concurrent plan.
- 18% of court review judgments and 33% of permanency judgments included findings on DHS efforts to support the concurrent plan.

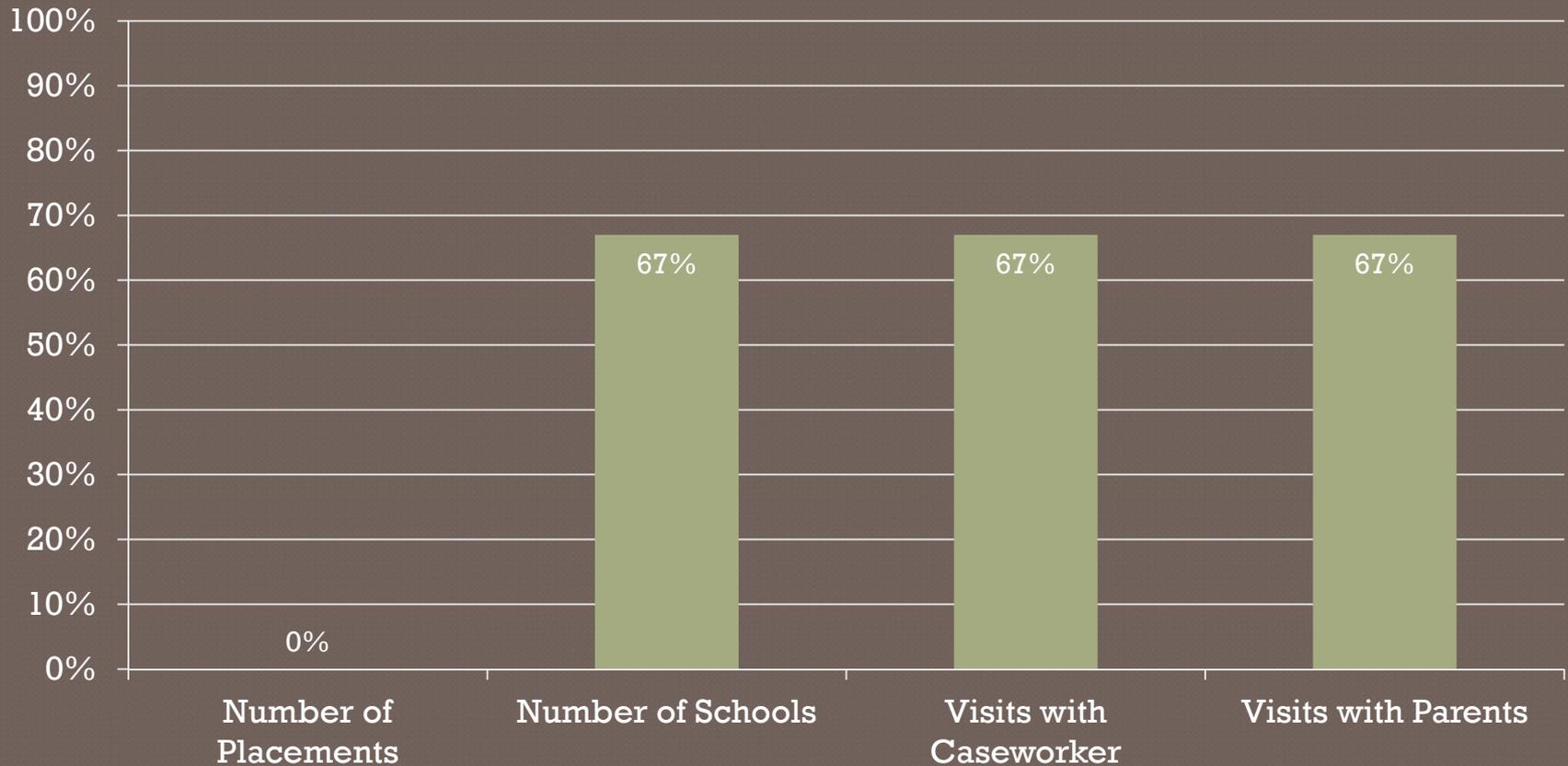
# Permanent Plans

---

- 67% of permanency judgments included a finding on reasonable efforts to reunify the family (when the plan was reunification).
- Of the six judgments in which the permanency plan was not reunification, one (17%) included documentation of why a more preferred plan was not appropriate.

# Wellbeing Findings

## Permanency Hearings



# Recommendations

---

- Twenty-five recommendations:
  - Model Forms
  - Party presence
  - Timeliness
  - Electronic distribution
  - Settlement conferences
  - Findings
  - ICWA
  - Appeals